EXPLORATION STAY / 3 DAYS

NATSUNO RIKU

POTATOES!

IT'S NOT WITHERED, SO MAYBE THERE ARE POTATOES.

EHHH--

SO WE'LL SEARCH THIS FACTORY FOR THREE DAYS AND THEN MOVE ON.

IT WOULD BE BEST TO STOCK UP SOME SUPPLIES,

DON'T "EHHH" ME.

CHI-CHAN, LOOK AT THIS.

YEAH, IT'S THE UNDERSIDE OF A POTATO PLANT.

If we only find a single potato this time as well, though...

DON'T SAY USELESS THINGS, IDIOT.

HOW MEAN.

.....

BUT IN THE LAST PRODUCTION PLANT, WE FOUND ONLY ONE IN THE END, RIGHT?

IT'S STUCK IN MY HAIR.

I'LL TAKE IT OUT.

OUCH

And yet neither of the two uttered a single word about cutting it off.

MESSY

The damaged hair doesn't come loose at all.

Hey Chito, come, I'll tie your hair for you.

In the past, long and pretty hair were seen as a sign of beauty.

Of course, it was best for men to fix their's up, too.

Hmm.

Because she's a girl, you'll pretty up her hair?

you're a girl after all.

Even at times like these,

at least this much,

...WELL, NO.

NNHHH...

DO YOU REMEMBER THE TALK WE HAD WITH GRANDFATHER ABOUT HAIR, LONG AGO?

IT CAME OFF.

WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY, THE LONGER EMBRACES THE SHORTER, RIGHT?

YUU, THANKS FOR HELPING ME WITH MY HAIR, OK?

.....

IT'S ACTUALLY "THE GREATER EMBRACES THE LESS", THOUGH.

...THANKS, YUU.

IF THEY WEIGHED ONLY THAT MUCH THEY'D SOON BE GONE...

IT WOULD BE GOOD IF WE COULD AT LEAST FIND POTATOES THAT WEIGH AS MUCH AS THIS HAIR.

STILL, WE DIDN'T FIND ANY POTATOES.

Exploration day 1

No potatoes found.

EVEN THOUGH WE DIDN'T FIND POTATOES, WE FOUND SOMETHING DIFFERENT, HM?

AROUND HERE THERE'S ONLY THIS STUFF.

CHII-CHAN, THERE'S SOME LIQUID IN THE BOTTLE WE FOUND EARLIER.

sfx: pouring alcohol

HEY CHII-CHAN, THE BEER LOOKED A BIT LIKE THE MOON, BUT THIS HAS A SIMILAR COLOR

TO THE BLUE STAR WE SAW AT THE PLACE WHERE THE ROCKET WAS, RIGHT?

CHEERS!

BUT IT STILL BRINGS THE SAME NICE FE-ELING AS BEER.

THIS IS MUCH SWEETER AND EASIER TO DRINK,

THIS ONE'S TASTY.

MAYBE THE COLOR OF OTHER PLANETS IS DISSOLVED IN THIS DRINK?

WHY WOULD YOU THINK IT'S DISSOLVED IN THIS?

NO...

MAYBE HUMANS WENT INTO SPACE TO CHECK THIS...

HA~

BECAUSE, DO YOU REALLY NEED THIS TO SURVIVE?

BECAUSE IT MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD, YOU'RE HAPPY WHEN YOU HAVE SOME, MAYBE...

I WONDER IF BOTH BEER AND THIS DRINK ARE PART OF A CULTURE THAT HASN'T SURVIVED TO OUR TIME.

EHHH, WHY?

But we can't take everything, only as much as fits in our storage space.

We're always choosing.

Things we want, things we need.

AH, BUT...

IT DOESN'T FILL YOUR BELLY, RIGHT?

ONLY ONE BOTTLE, UNDERSTOOD?

YAY

Day 2

Again nothing gathered.

.....

SO WE HAVE TO GET RID OF THE THINGS THAT AREN'T ESSENTIAL BIT BY BIT, RIGHT?

YOUR WORDS DON'T MATCH WITH WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

SFX: SQUISH

YOU'RE MAKING A WORRIED FACE.

WHAT?

Farewell.

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT VARIOUS THINGS.

HOW COMPLICATED.

NUKO,

"GOD",

LIFE AND SO ON.

EHHHHH

THERE'S NO WAY WE WON'T BE ABLE TO EAT POTATOES.

BUT COULD YOU REALLY CALL THAT LIVING?

IF WE BECAME LIKE *THAT*,

WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO SEARCH FOR POTATOES,

IF I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO EAT POTATOES, I'D PROBABLY BE HAPPIER TO JUST DIE AND GO TO PARADISE.

BUT THE PARADISE* WE SAW AT THE TEMPLE** SOME TIME AGO WAS REALLY BEAUTIFUL, WASN'T IT?

IF WE BECAME LIKE THAT,

THERE WOULDN'T BE A LIFE AFTER DEATH, RIGHT?

*T/L note : The literal meaning of the word here is Amida Buddha's "Pure Land" which is basically Buddhist paradise .

**In chapter 9.

WON'T IT RATHER BE LOUD AND ANNOYING?

MOST OF THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN LIVING IN THIS WORLD WILL BE THERE NOW.

I BET LIFE AFTER DEATH IS UNEXPECTEDLY LOUD AND LIVELY.

I WONDER IF THERE'S MANY DEAD PEOPLE IN PARADISE.

WOULD THAT BE HEAVEN, OR WOULD IT BE HELL?

If we assume that indeed all the people of this world are now in paradise,

IT'S GONNA BE SIMILAR EVERYWHERE, I GUESS.

won't they finally end up building a structure similar to this city over there, too?

MORE IMPORTANTLY, THERE AREN'T ANY POTATOES, RIGHT?

IT'S ENOUGH. BY NOW I DON'T WANT TO SEE THESE VINES ANYMORE...

Day 3

In the end, failure to collect potatoes.

4th day

WE FOUND ZERO POTATOES.

I GET IT, YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME.

SOMEBODY MUST'VE EATEN THE POTATOES BEFORE WE GOT HERE.

POTATOES REALLY FILL YOUR BELLY, HM?

YEAH, PROBABLY.

WELL, LET'S GO TO THE NEXT ONE.

YEAH.

END +

Socomb scanlinations

but worse

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